

For Immediate Release

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NEWS ADVISORY

California's 2012 Christmas Tree to be Cut and Delivered to State Capitol

Capitol tree to be harvested from a CAL FIRE state forest

WHAT: Cutting & delivery of the state's official Christmas tree

WHEN/WHERE: **Tree Cutting: 10 a.m., November 6, 2012**, at Latour Demonstration State Forest, near Redding, CA. Rain or shine. ***Media wanting to cover the tree cutting must meet at the CAL FIRE station located at 6105 Airport Road, Redding, CA, and MUST be at the meet-up site NO LATER THAN 10 a.m. PST in order to be escorted through the forest. Anyone arriving later than that time will be unable to cover the tree-cutting.***

Tree Transport & Arrival at Capitol: 11 a.m., November 7, 2012. Tree will be transported from the Latour Demonstration State Forest to the west lawn of the State Capitol in Sacramento. The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) will transport the tree with a California Highway Patrol escort down Interstate 5 South to the Q Street exit, and will then proceed left onto 10th Street.

Set up: Approximately 12 p.m., November 7, 2012. Tree will be placed in the west lawn of Capitol park (10th Street between N and

L Streets).

SUMMARY:

On November 6, a tree crew from the California Department of General Services will cut down the state's official Christmas tree from the Latour Demonstration State Forest near Redding and prepare the tree for transport. The stately 50 foot white fir tree is believed to be the first ever Capitol Christmas tree to be donated by CAL FIRE off one of its demonstration forests.

Once set up of the tree is complete, DGS crews will spend several days trimming the tree with 500 hand-crafted ornaments donated from the California Department of Developmental Services. The ornaments are created by children and adults with developmental disabilities who receive services and support from the state's development centers and 21 nonprofit regional centers.

The tree will also feature 10,000 ultra-low-wattage, light-emitting diode (LED) bulbs.

The Latour Demonstration State Forest is one of eight state forests operated by CAL FIRE. These forests are used to host research projects, and demonstrate improved forest management practices, from timber production and environmental stewardship, to public recreation uses. The 9,033 acres that make up Latour State Forest is in eastern Shasta County and offers public recreation activities such as camping, hiking, and the opportunity to cut a Christmas tree. Permits or more information may be obtained by calling the Latour State Demonstration Forest at (530) 225-2418.

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